

02-277

**From:** paradaly  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, Jan 31, 2003 3:05 PM  
**Subject:** a plea for the average American

I can only assume that as Bush appointees you have a tendency to favor the big-money elites over the ordinary citizen, but I am writing anyway, in hopes of helping you understand how important your decisions are to the future health of our republic. As Thomas Jefferson understood, and wily politicians (and oppressive dictators) to this day understand in the deepest marrow of their being, education is the cornerstone of government. To control the dissemination of information is tantamount to controlling everything.

Jefferson assumed that those following in his footsteps would naturally want the highest level of education to prevail, in other words, the truth. But he lived during a period of incredible idealism and selflessness. It was the aristocracy that risked their comfortable lives for our freedom. Times have changed, and not all for the worse, but one drastic and regrettable change is the way the public is informed. By allowing our God-given airwaves to be usurped by the forces of capitalism, and then cynically realizing how wonderful a mechanism this is for allowing the 'right' information to be broadcast (rather than the truth), our leaders have turned the Jeffersonian ideal of an informed electorate upside down.

You, my friends, are in a position to help stop this corruption of our system of government. The owners of the networks, cable companies, and such corporate behemoths as Clear Channel do not have the 'education' of the public as their primary concern, and so would not dare inform them of the link between soda consumption and diabetes (when soda ads are some of their biggest sources of revenue) even in the face of a mounting epidemic of diabetes, nor would they air a news story of Coca Cola buying water rights in India, thus literally leaving Indian villagers high and dry. What about Clear Channel's "suggested" list of banned songs? What about CNN licking its chops because a war will boost ratings? We have reached a state of censorship and propagandizing, yet most people are unaware.

Please support more diversification and greater freedom of our airwaves. Please insist on free air time for all political candidates, even those from third (and fourth and fifth) parties. Please demand that public forums and debates be included in the programming formats of all cable, television, and radio stations.

I know it is tempting to use your power to maintain the status quo. I am sure the big-shots at NBC (General Electric) et al are pressuring you to allow for continued monopolization of the airwaves. I will be so proud (and send you a grateful thank you note) if you do not cave to such pressure, but instead look at the future of this great nation, and base your decision on the best way to maximize dissemination of the real truth, not Madison Avenue's version of it.

Thank you for considering my plea. Sincerely, Kate Paradis

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02-277

**From:** BVTheGhouls@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, Jan 31, 2003 10:57 AM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Michael K. Powell

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Powell:

I don't mean to bother you or take up too much of your time but I felt the need to write and tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our country's birth to the present.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didn't find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

You should be ashamed that an agency under your leadership is not using what is in the best interests of the American public as it's guiding principle, but instead is thinking of what is most profitable for a few huge corporations who only care about the bottom line, not about what is good for democracy.

Thank you for your time,

Brian McFadden  
1814 Jefferson St.  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

**From:** Josh  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, Jan 31, 2003 8:18 PM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely yours,  
Josh Edwards

38 Mercer Hill Road  
Amber, PA 19002